



NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**MEXICAN CITIZEN SENTENCED TO 12 ½ YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON
FOR HIS CONVICTION OF CONSPIRACY TO DISTRIBUTE COCAINE**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced that on March 4, 2008, Guillermo Aguirre, a citizen of Mexico, was sentenced in federal court in Anchorage to 151 months in prison for his conviction of conspiracy to distribute five kilograms of cocaine.

United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline imposed the sentence on Aguirre, age 46.

According to information presented to the court by lead Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force Assistant United States Attorney Stephan A. Collins, Aguirre was part of a drug distribution organization consisting of Mexican nationals, including legal permanent residents and illegally present Mexican citizens, who distributed more than 40 kilograms of cocaine in Anchorage over at least a two-year period of time.

Prior to imposing sentence, Judge Beistline stated that Aguirre's sentence reflected the seriousness of Aguirre's conduct as well as provided a deterrent to others who might consider engaging in drug trafficking. As part of the sentence imposed, Judge Beistline ordered that Aguirre forfeit \$40,991.00 in cash seized at the time of Aguirre's arrest. Following the completion of his sentence, Aguirre will be deported back to Mexico.

Mr. Cohen commended the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the investigation leading to the successful prosecution of Aguirre and his other co-conspirators, who were previously convicted and sentenced in the same case.

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